

**DAC Meeting Minutes - Spring 2003**  
**SW Region, April 1, 2003 at Shakespearean Festival Office**  
Present: Ferron Holt, Barbara Prestwich, Carol Goodson, and Michael Bahr

**Local Happenings:**

Both Washington and Iron are losing their superintendents - retiring this year. Sad news: Garfield District no longer offers any music classes to students.

Identified venues in the SW region worth exploring for INFINITY event potential; e.g., the concert series offered through the Dixie Center at Dixie College.

**Going well and worth preserving:**

- Washington has a District Arts *Committee* that meets every month. The committee has a principal-appointed arts ed. representative from each school, and one district chair for music, art, dance, and drama, who all work with Ferron in generating the agenda for the meeting. Additionally, the “job-alikes” (e.g., band teachers) meet quarterly, and after going through the information from the district (about 15 minutes), they discuss what they want to...when dinner is provided, they go at it for hours!!!
- Ferron, as District Arts Coordinator has found that going to the teachers when he visits them and asking them what he can do to help them with what they already have scheduled
  - a) Takes away their fear of “oh, no, what is he going to ask me to do now????”
  - b) Makes them look forward to his visits
  - c) Has helped them get rid of things that were not worth it and strengthened things that were worth it...they have gotten rid of a lot of “junk.”
- Connecting with what is in the community has been fun, strengthens student opportunities, and builds community arts “ownership.” Examples: Bach Festival Art exhibitions, Orff Festival.
- The Feeder System stipends provided by USOE to attend UAEA, UMEA
- POPS programs:
  - Arts INC’s Fenton Dance group presentations
  - SWAP staff inventory of art and elementary Art Talks
  - UU Museum paying for buses for schools to do field trips to the museum.

**Would make the Biggest Difference in Student Learning:**

- For K-5: Need more arts-trained and knowledgeable teachers who can instruct during classroom teachers’ prep time.
- For 6-7: Administrative issues ...only music is happening...need to help them with their mission/goal meetings.
- For MS: Class size is killing us---400 band students in a day....
- Policy changes needed regarding FTE ownership of a teacher---need to hire for a program, not for FTE.
- Need to get teachers to professional development conferences.

**Professional Learning Communities Grants**

Discussed the purpose of these grants---to improve student learning in the arts---and how professional learning communities have been powerful professional development experiences for other teachers in Utah....that they positively and powerfully impact them personally and have high transfer into their professional practice in the classroom and impact on student learning.

**Resources for DAC members:**

- “Arts and Learning” ISBN 0-8013-3247-8
  - “Weaving in the Arts” ISBN 0-325-00032-8
  - “Block Scheduling and Music Program I & II
  - “Music at the Middle Level, Building Strong Programs” by June Hinckley
  - “Na Agenda for Excellence in Music at the Middle Level” MENC
  - “Keeping the Promise”
  - “Arts Education in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools: 1999-2000” – National Center for Educational Statistics June 2002
  - “Transforming Ideas for Teaching and Learning the Arts”
  - “Learning Partnerships, Improving Learning in Schools with Arts Partners in the Community”
  - “Priorities for Arts Education Research” Goals 2000 Arts Education Partnership
  - “Champions of Change, The Impact of the Arts on Learning”
  - “All State Utah HS Art Show 2003 Exhibition”- Springville Museum of Art
  - Gaining the Arts Advantage, Lessons from School Districts that Value Arts Education” President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and Arts Education Partnership
- “Professional Learning Communities at Work, Best Practices for Enhancing Student Achievement” Richard DuFour, Robert Eaker ISBN 1-879639-60-29000